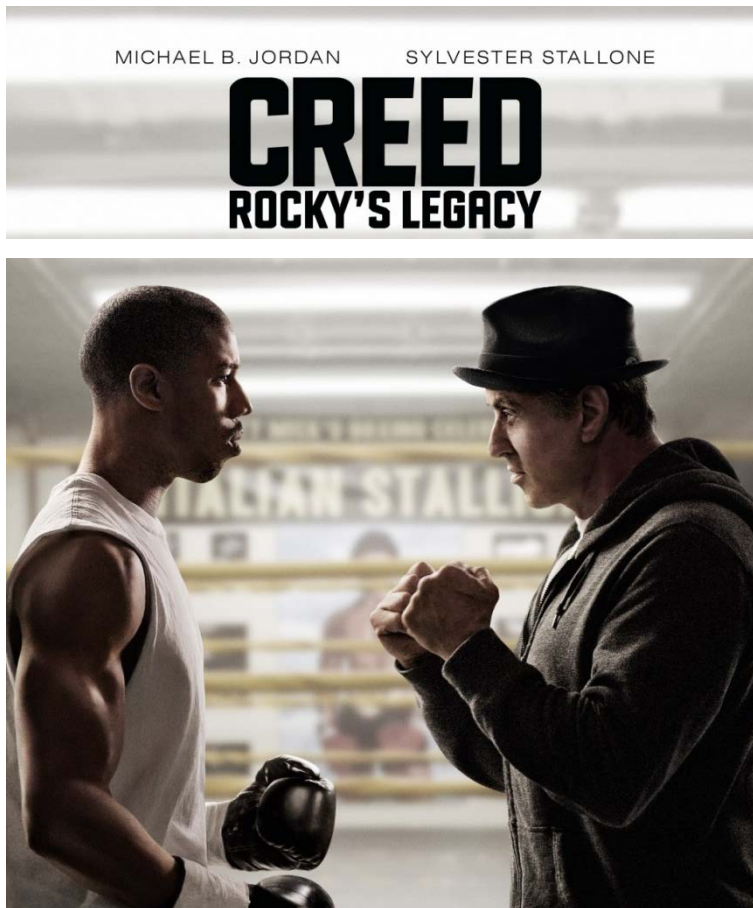




March 10, 2016

Creed



Creed is the latest entry into the Rocky Balboa legacy originally created by Sylvester Stallone. In this entry, Rocky is challenged by the son of his former nemesis and later friend Apollo Creed. The sins of the father notwithstanding, the story is ultimately about bonds between people who, although not related by blood, choose to be there for each other “step by step and round by round.” In seeing the aging Rocky, we are reminded of all he lost and all he accomplished in the fictional world of prizefighting Philadelphia. And now, as much as then, we root for him to succeed as a man, as a trainer and as a surrogate father figure to the child, who was left on his

own to make it in the world until the loving kindness of his father’s wife gave him the support he needed to fulfill his destiny and carry on the Creed name in the ring.

Creed is one of those simple character stories that we have seen again and again, but never get tired of. Clichés aside, I think Stallone deserved the nomination at the Oscars. He stepped back into the role as though he was putting on his favorite slippers. Rocky will always be his career masterpiece and to see it resurrected for a younger generation was very enjoyable. With a more contemporary soundtrack and Michael B. Jordan giving a new face to the franchise as Adonis Johnson Creed, it seems as though Rocky Balboa is not down for the count, but a blue collar hero that you can count on to deliver a rock solid punch.



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Creed is a great example of how important one caring adult can be in a young person's life. It is also a reminder that we need people we can trust around us if we are going to reach our goals in life. No matter how hard our lives have been or how many blows we get in life, rolling with the punches and letting go of old grudges and anger is the best way to live a meaningful and satisfying life. So, go and spend the afternoon with Rocky Balboa, you just may be knocked out! I give *Creed* 4 gold tickets.

